



# Vocabulary Power



## Lesson 28 Using Synonyms

Think about something that inspires you. It might be the actions or words of great—or not-so-great—people. It could be a beautiful scene in nature, one that makes you feel a part of something larger than yourself. It might even be as simple as just doing something well, knowing that you’ve used your abilities to achieve a goal. The words in this lesson can help you describe what inspiration means to you.

### Word List

aesthetic

affirmation

elated

majestic

recede

sage

savor

serenity

undaunted

vanquish

### EXERCISE A Synonyms

Each boldfaced word below is paired with a synonym whose meaning you probably know.

Brainstorm other words related to the synonym and write your ideas on the line provided. Then, look up the word in a dictionary and write its meaning.

1. **majestic** : grand \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

2. **elated** : overjoyed \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

3. **vanquish** : defeat \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

4. **affirmation** : approval \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

5. **recede** : withdraw \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

6. **aesthetic** : artistic \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

7. **sage** : wise \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

8. **serenity** : peacefulness \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

9. **undaunted** : unafraid \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_



## Vocabulary Power *continued*

10. **savor** : enjoy \_\_\_\_\_  
Dictionary definition \_\_\_\_\_

### **EXERCISE B** Sentence Completion

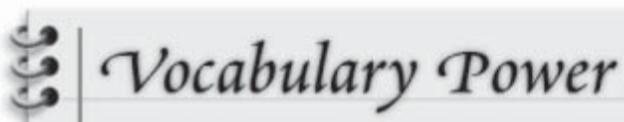
**Write the word that best completes each sentence.**

1. Everyone in the river town breathed easier when the flood waters finally began to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The noisy chain saw disturbed the \_\_\_\_\_ of the forest.
3. After all our hard work on the parade float, we were \_\_\_\_\_ when we won first prize.
4. Even though the cobra was quick and deadly, it was unable to \_\_\_\_\_ the nimble mongoose.
5. If you ate your muffin more slowly, you'd be able to \_\_\_\_\_ it.
6. The emperor indicated his \_\_\_\_\_ of the proposal by signing it.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ statue towers over the island, welcoming visitors to Rio de Janeiro.
8. "Honesty is the best policy" is certainly \_\_\_\_\_ advice.
9. Moriah can spot \_\_\_\_\_ value in art objects that other people don't appreciate.
10. To everyone's surprise, the Blue Sox hitters were \_\_\_\_\_ by the speed of the opposing pitcher's fastball.

### **EXERCISE C** Understanding Definitions

**Read each sentence and answer the question that follows.**

1. Because of his years of experience, Dr. Wilson always gives sage advice. How would you describe the doctor's advice? \_\_\_\_\_
2. As soon as she arrived at the isolated cabin after the drive from the city, Mandy experienced a powerful feeling of serenity. What words would you use to describe Mandy's life in the city?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The crowd roared its affirmation when the candidate asked for help in winning the White House. How did the crowd feel about the candidate?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Omar was elated when he saw the score on his math test. How do you think Omar did on the test?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. When dawn broke, the soldiers saw that the enemy army had receded. What do you think the enemy army probably did?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Vocabulary Power**Lesson 29 The Suffix -ist**

A suffix is a word or group of letters that can be added to the ending of a word or root. Suffixes have their own meanings and add to or change the meaning of a root word. The suffix *-ist* added to a word means “a doer or follower of something.” The vocabulary words in this lesson deal with doers of certain actions or followers of certain ideals.

**Word List****anarchist****paleontologist****propagandist****seismologist****atheist****plagiarist****royalist****separatist****cardiologist****pragmatist****EXERCISE A Usage**

Write a phrase that best completes each sentence.

1. Propaganda is the spread of ideas meant to help one's cause or injure another cause. A propagandist is a person who \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Separation is the dividing of one entity, such as a nation or state, into two or more parts. A separatist is a person who \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Anarchy is the lack of law and order caused by the absence of government. An anarchist is someone who \_\_\_\_\_.
4. *Royalty* refers to the institution of government run by a king or queen. A royalist is a person who \_\_\_\_\_.
5. A theist is a person who believes in God. If you add the negative prefix, or beginning, *a-* to this word, you are describing someone who \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Pragmatic is an adjective that means “realistic.” A pragmatist is someone who \_\_\_\_\_.
7. *Cardio* comes from the ancient Greek word for the heart. A cardiologist is a doctor whose specialty is \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Paleontology is the study of ancient life, such as dinosaurs. A paleontologist is a \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The study of earthquakes is known as seismology. A seismologist is a \_\_\_\_\_.
10. To plagiarize something is to copy it and claim it is your own work. A plagiarist is someone who \_\_\_\_\_.



## Vocabulary Power *continued*

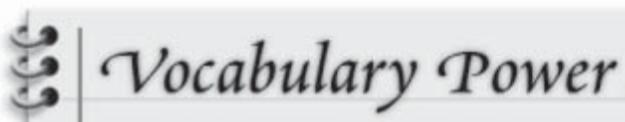
### **EXERCISE B** Context Clues

**Below you'll find the titles of five books. Fill in the space with the vocabulary word that best fits the title.**

1. *My Incredible Life at the Court of King Bogdan III* by Ladislav Warshevski, an enthusiastic \_\_\_\_\_.
2. *Raptors I Have Known* by Dr. Morton Franks, chief \_\_\_\_\_ at the Warren Institute for the Study of Prehistoric Life.
3. *How to Keep Your Heart Healthy* by Dr. Bruno Lopez, a leading \_\_\_\_\_ at New York Hospital.
4. *People Must Be Free: The End of Government* by George Mahler, world-famous \_\_\_\_\_ and revolutionary.
5. *Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On: The Violent World of Earthquakes* by Dr. Anna Wolf, head \_\_\_\_\_ at Pacific State University.

### **EXERCISE C** Crossword Puzzle

**In the space below or on a separate sheet of paper, create a crossword puzzle using *-ist* words from this lesson and from other sources. Exchange puzzles with a partner and complete the one you receive.**

Vocabulary Power**Lesson 30 The Word Root *spir***

The Latin root *spir* means “breath.” The vocabulary words in this lesson all have *spir* as their root. The root carries the word’s main meaning. In most of these words, a prefix (at the beginning) or suffix (at the end) has been added to the word root to modify its meaning. The words are noun and verb forms of the same idea, based on the same Latin root.

**Word List****aspirant****aspiration****aspire****conspiracy****conspirator****conspire****expiration****expire****perspiration****perspire****EXERCISE A Sentence Construction**

Look up each vocabulary word in a dictionary and write a sentence correctly using the word.

1. conspire \_\_\_\_\_
2. conspiracy \_\_\_\_\_
3. conspirator \_\_\_\_\_
4. aspire \_\_\_\_\_
5. aspiration \_\_\_\_\_
6. aspirant \_\_\_\_\_
7. expire \_\_\_\_\_
8. expiration \_\_\_\_\_
9. perspire \_\_\_\_\_
10. perspiration \_\_\_\_\_

**EXERCISE B Clues Matching**

Write the vocabulary word that best matches the clue.

1. All living things do this at the end of their lives.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. People planning a surprise birthday party have to do this.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The human body produces this in order to cool itself.  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Vocabulary Power *continued*

4. Anyone involved in a secret plot is one.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Your goal to become a writer is this.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Each person who enters a contest is one.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Certain foods become inedible after this date.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. You would notice yourself doing this when you play basketball but not when you swim.

\_\_\_\_\_

### **EXERCISE C** Usage

**If the boldfaced word is used correctly in the sentence, write *correct* above it. If not, draw a line through it and write the correct vocabulary word above it.**

1. Rachel's greatest **expiration** is to become a chemist.

2. Our school's volleyball team was the leading **aspirant** for the conference championship.

3. **Aspiration** dripped off the steel worker's forehead as she labored near the blazing blast furnace.

4. The **conspiracy** was captured by the soldiers and led off in chains to the dungeon.

5. My dog Max pants all the time during hot weather because dogs can't **perspire**.

6. The suspicious dictator lived in constant fear that his closest advisors would **conspire** against him and remove him from power.

7. The milk looked like cottage cheese because the **expire** date was two months ago.

8. A group of **conspirators** assassinated the prince of Austria-Hungary and ignited the war.

9. "I **aspire** to hold the highest office in the state before I am thirty years old," announced the high school valedictorian to her awed classmates.

10. "My dear friends," gasped the fatally wounded hero, "allow me one favor before I **perspire**."

Vocabulary Power**Lesson 31 Using Reading Skills****Context Clues**

The ideas inherent in words surrounding an unfamiliar word make up that word's context. You can use the context to discover the meaning of an unknown vocabulary word. Look for key words elsewhere in the sentence that will help you define the unknown word.

**EXERCISE**

**Read each sentence. Use context clues to find the meaning of the boldfaced word. On the first line, jot down key words in the sentence that help you define the unknown vocabulary word. Then, write the boldfaced word's probable meaning on the second line.**

1. We assigned Miranda the job of checking every measurement in the project because she is **scrupulous** about details.

\_\_\_\_\_

My definition \_\_\_\_\_

2. The detective refused to **speculate** about how the robbery was committed until he could examine the crime scene.

\_\_\_\_\_

My definition \_\_\_\_\_

3. No matter how hard they struggled, the movers could not haul the **unwieldy** piano up the steep steps.

\_\_\_\_\_

My definition \_\_\_\_\_

4. The children's eyes lit up when their grandmother walked through the door **laden** with brightly wrapped packages.

\_\_\_\_\_

My definition \_\_\_\_\_

5. Trina sighed and left the beautiful campsite and majestic mountain scenery with extreme **reluctance**.

\_\_\_\_\_

My definition \_\_\_\_\_

6. The most generous contributor to the charity did not reveal her name, preferring to remain **anonymous**.

\_\_\_\_\_

My definition \_\_\_\_\_

Vocabulary Power**Review: Unit 8****EXERCISE**

Circle the letter of the word that can best replace the word or words in *italics*.

1. My grandmother was *overjoyed and excited* when I told her I had been accepted in the United States Air Force.  
a. scrupulous      b. elated      c. undaunted      d. stalwart
2. That huge sack of potatoes is the most *awkward and difficult* object to carry inside.  
a. insatiable      b. laden      c. unwieldy      d. majestic
3. The *specialist in prehistoric life* lectured on the size of a stegosaurus's brain.  
a. paleontologist      b. seismologist      c. cardiologist      d. propagandist
4. The revolutionaries called a secret meeting to organize their *plot* against the government.  
a. conspiracy      b. multitude      c. sage      d. wane
5. The head of the exploration team sent out a request for a dozen *strong and brave* men and women for the arctic expedition.  
a. majestic      b. aesthetic      c. stalwart      d. undaunted
6. The movie audience always weeps as the ship slowly sinks and the unfortunate passengers *breathe their last*.  
a. wane      b. aspire      c. recede      d. expire
7. On Christmas morning, Jane arrived, *loaded* with packages for the entire family.  
a. elated      b. laden      c. undaunted      d. majestic
8. With all the abstract ideas put forth by members, what we really need is a hard-nosed *realist*.  
a. anarchist      b. pragmatist      c. separatist      d. royalist
9. Even though Dr. Wang never achieved her highest *goal and hope*, a cure for cancer, she paved the way for important medical discoveries.  
a. multitude      b. reluctance      c. expiration      d. aspiration
10. Now, we can only *guess* about the deceased politician's potential in government.  
a. speculate      b. savor      c. aspire      d. vanquish